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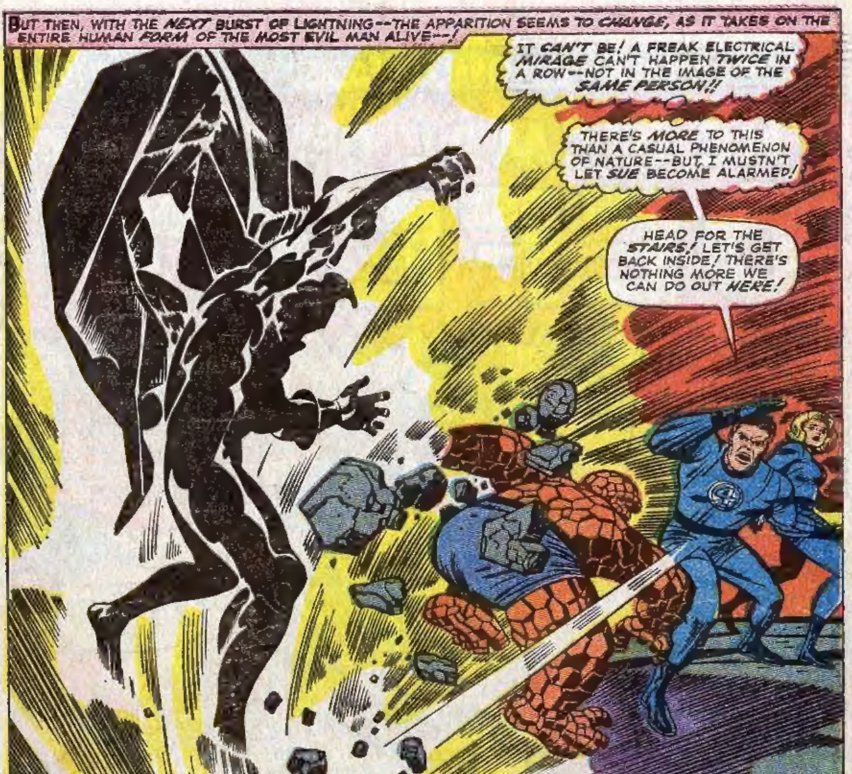

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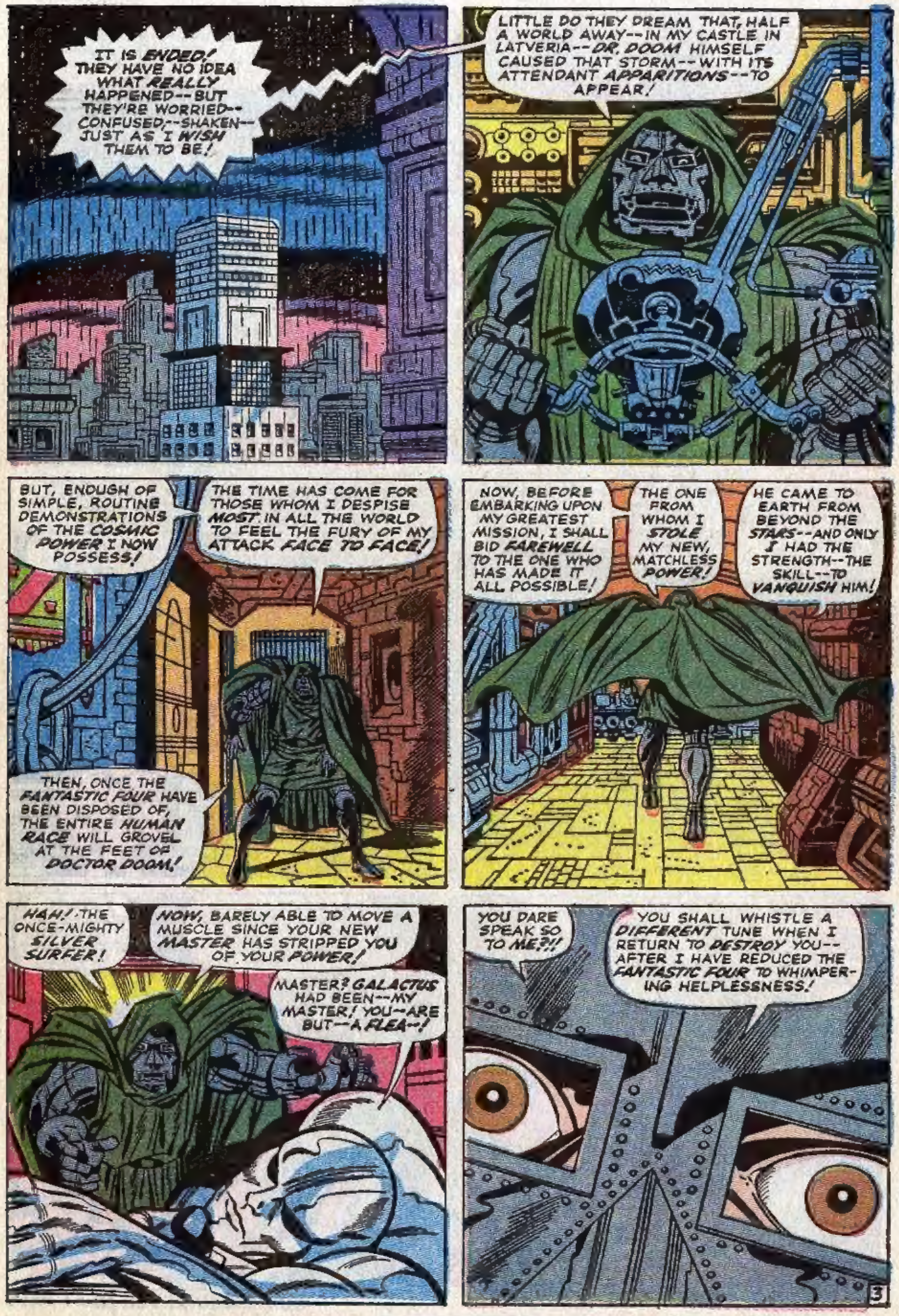
IT IS ENDED! THEY HAVE NO IDEA WHAT REALLY HAPPENED--BUT THEY'RE WORRIED--CONFUSED,--SHAKEN--JUST AS I WISH THEM TO BE!
LITTLE DO THEY DREAM THAT, HALF A WORLD AWAY--IN MY CASTLE IN LATVERIA--DR. DOOM HIMSELF CAUSED THAT STORM--WITH ITS ATTENDANT APPARITIONS--TO APPEAR!
BUT, ENOUGH OF SIMPLE, ROUTINE DEMONSTRATIONS OF THE COSMIC POWER I NOW POSSESS!
THE TIME HAS COME FOR THOSE WHOM I DESPISE MOST IN ALL THE WORLD TO FEEL THE FURY OF MY ATTACK FACE TO FACE!
THEN, ONCE THE FANTASTIC FOUR HAVE BEEN DISPOSED OF, THE ENTIRE HUMAN RACE WILL GROVEL AT THE FEET OF DOCTOR DOOM!
NOW, BEFORE EMBARKING UPON MY GREATEST MISSION, I SHALL BID FAREWELL TO THE ONE WHO HAS MADE IT ALL POSSIBLE!
THE ONE FROM WHOM I STOLE MY NEW, MATCHLESS POWER!
HE CAME TO EARTH FROM BEYOND THE STARS--AND ONLY I HAD THE STRENGTH--THE SKILL--TO VANQUISH HIM!
HAH! THE ONCE-MIGHTY SILVER SURFER!
NOW, BARELY ABLE TO MOVE A MUSCLE SINCE YOUR NEW MASTER HAS STRIPPED YOU OF YOUR POWER!
MASTER? GALACTUS HAD BEEN--MY MASTER! YOU--ARE BUT--A FLEA--!
YOU DARE SPEAK SO TO ME?!!
YOU SHALL WHISTLE A DIFFERENT TUNE WHEN I RETURN TO DESTROY YOU--AFTER I HAVE REDUCED THE FANTASTIC FOUR TO WHIMPERING HELPLESSNESS!
3

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

MORE MARVEL MASTERPIECES...
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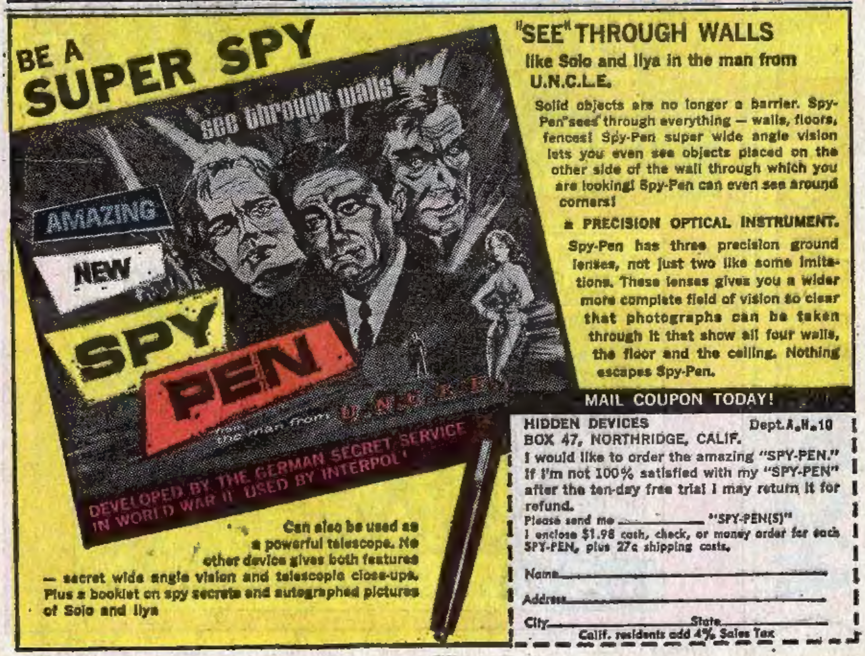
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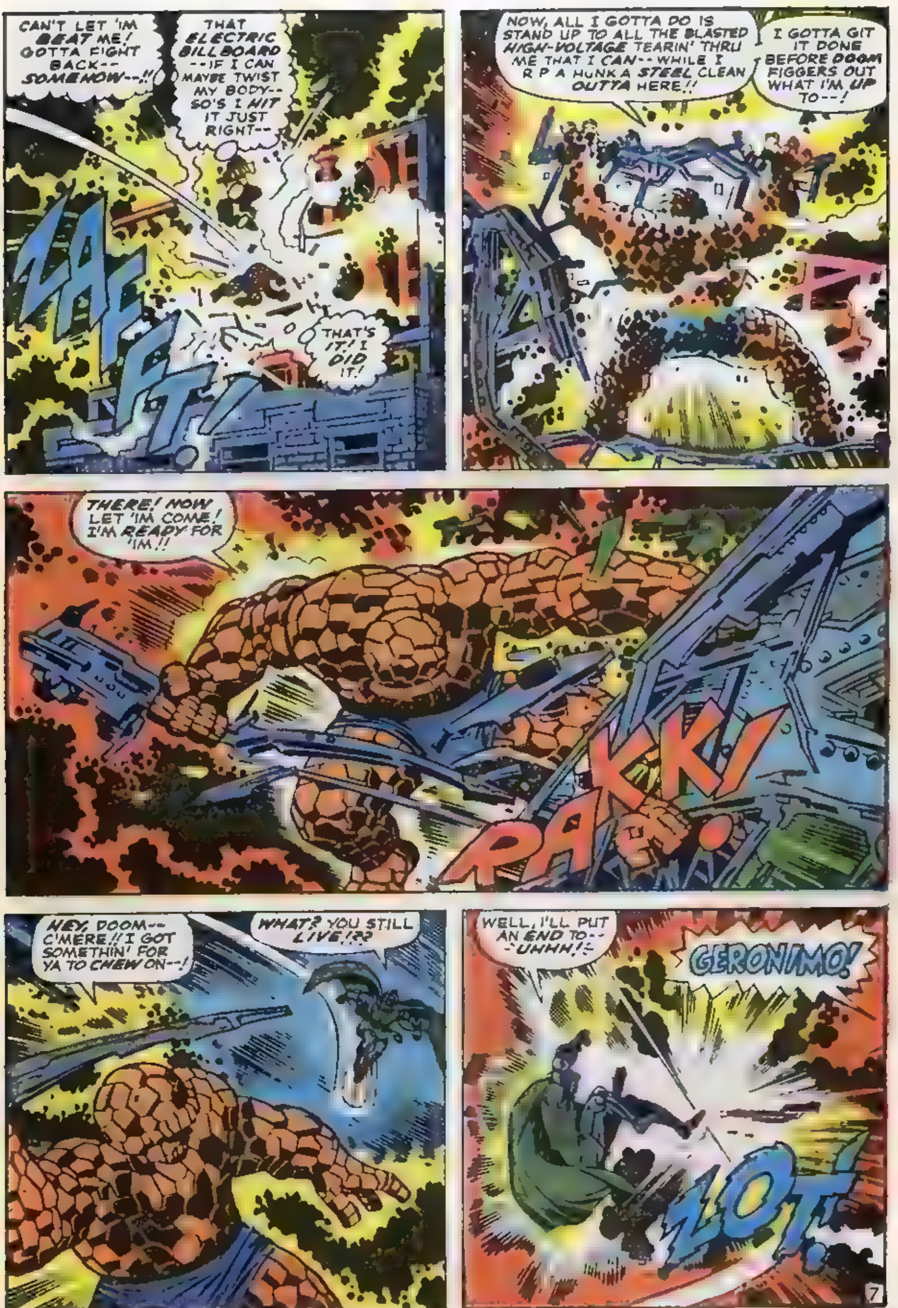
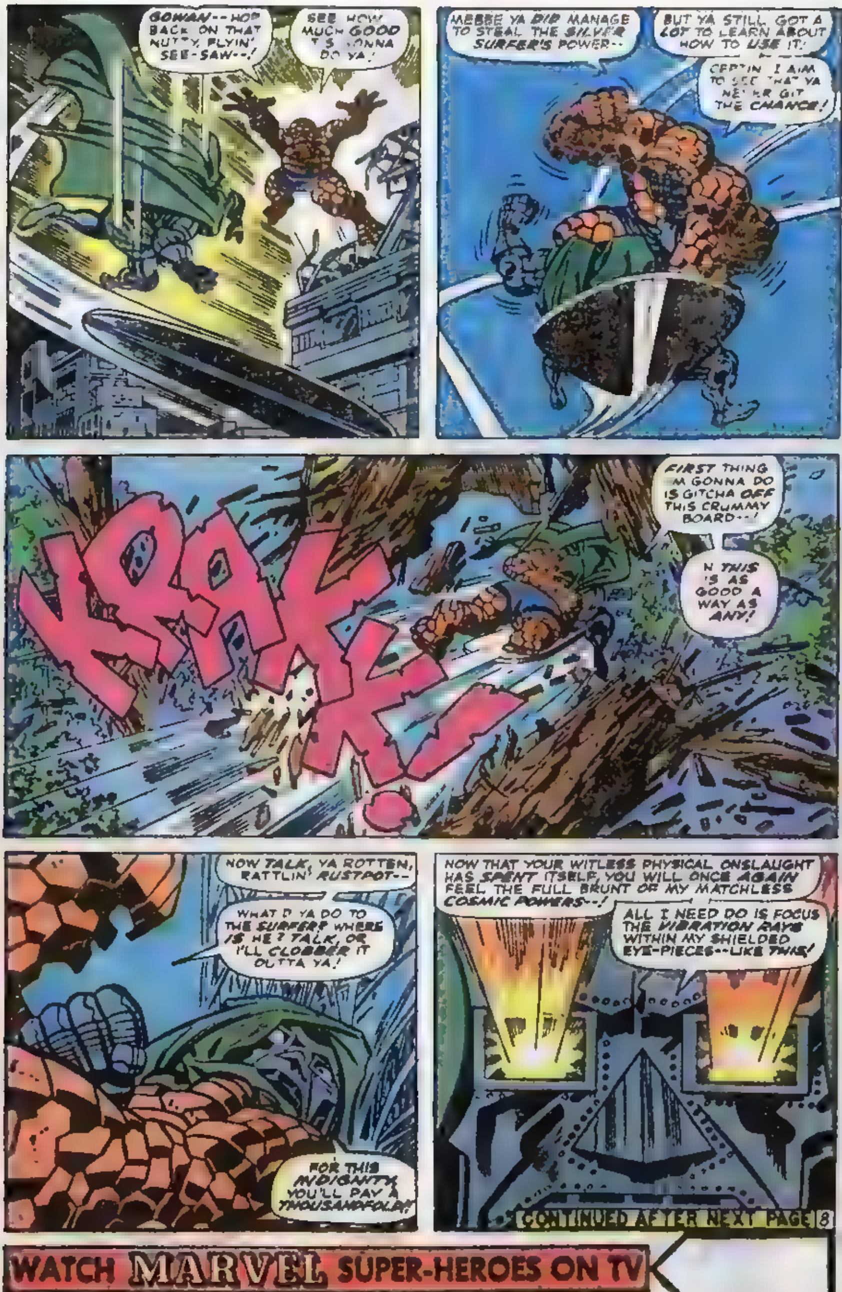
GANGWAY!
BEN--WAIT! COME BACK! IT'S ONLY ME!
THAT'S STRETCHO'S VOICE!! WHAT HAPPENED TO 'IM??
H-HOW DID HE BECOME A GHOST SO FAST??!
WHAT'S BOTHERING YOU, BIG FELLA?
I'VE NEVER KNOWN YOU TO BE SO JUMPY BEFORE!
-WHEW!- IT REALLY IS YOU! THEN--YOU AINT--I MEAN-- -EH!- SHEEESH!
WHO'S JUMPY! I WUZ JUST PRACTICIN' MY ISOMETRIC PANIC LESSONS!
ANYWAY, YA SHOULDN'T OUGHTTA SNEAK UP ON A GUY THAT WAY! IT AINT COUTH!
BE THAT AS IT MAY, I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU THAT SUE AND I ARE GOING TO THE LITTLE COTTAGE WE RENTED AT SOUTHAMPTON FOR THE WEEK-END!
SO, BE SURE TO DEACTIVATE ALL THE CONTROLS AND LOCK THE PLACE UP WHEN YOU LEAVE, BEN!
YA MEAN YER GONNA LEAVE ME HERE ALL ALONE ALL WEEK-END?
NOT EXACTLY! YOU'LL HAVE YOUR GHOST STORIES TO KEEP YOU COMPANY!
HARDY HAR HAR!
SOMEHOW, IT'S HARD TO WORRY TOO MUCH ABOUT A FRIEND WHEN HE HAPPENS TO BE ONE OF THE WORLD'S STRONGEST MEN!
WADDAYA MEAN ONE OF?
HAVE A GOOD WEEK-END, BEN!
IF YOU NEED US, YOU HAVE OUR NUMBER!
BY THE WAY --WHY DON'T YOU CALL ALICIA?
YEAH! I'M GONNA DO JUST THAT!
THEN, A FEW MINUTES AFTER THE WORLD'S MOST GLAMOROUS NEWLYWEDS HAVE DEPARTED--
WHAT IN THE NAME OF AUNT PETUNIA IS BUGGIN' ME?
I FEEL LIKE A THANKSGIVIN' TURKEY WAITIN' FOR THE BLAMED AX TO FALL!
I NEVER EXACTLY BEEN THE NERVOUS TYPE BEFORE!
IT'S ALMOST LIKE SOME KIND'A PREMONITION THAT SOMETHIN' AWFUL'S GONNA HAPPEN!
5
WATCH MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ON TV

AT THAT SPLIT-SECOND, AS THOUGH CUED BY SOME UNSEEN, OMNIPOTENT STAGE DIRECTOR, BEN GRIMM'S WHOLE WORLD SEEMS TO COME CRASHING DOWN AROUND HIM--!
HOLY HANNAH!! SOMETHIN'S PULLIN' ME OUTSIDE--!
CLEAN THRU THE WHOLE BLASTED WALL!!
SKRAKK!
IT'S DOOM-- AND HE'S FOR REAL THIS TIME!!
BUT--I DON'T GIT IT!! HE'S RIDIN' THE SILVER SURFER'S OWN BOARD!!
YOU INSUFFERABLE --UNSPEAKABLE BLOT ON THE ESCUTCHEON OF HUMANITY--
PREPARE TO MEET THE FATE YOU SO SORELY DESERVE!!
FEEL!! FEEL THE LIMITLESS COSMIC POWER IN THE HAND WHICH YOU ONCE NEARLY CRUSHED!
AND KNOW THAT IT IS CERTAINLY THE LAST THING YOU WILL EVER FEEL IN YOUR WORTHLESS, SOON-TO-BE-ENDED LIFE!
I DUNNO HOW HE DID IT-- BUT HE GOT THE SURFER'S BOARD--AND HE MANAGED TO GET LOTS'A HIS CRAZY OUTER-SPACE POWER, TOO!
BROK!
SEE HOW EASILY-- HOW EFFORTLESSLY --I CAN INCREASE THE DENSITY OF MY OWN PHYSICAL ATOMS--
ENABLING ME TO SMASH OUT AT YOU WITH A FORCE THAT EQUALS YOUR OWN BRUTAL, SAVAGE STRENGTH!
6


CAN'T LET 'IM BEAT ME! GOTTA FIGHT BACK-- SOMEHOW--!!
THAT ELECTRIC BILLBOARD --IF I CAN MAYBE TWIST MY BODY-- SO'S I HIT IT JUST RIGHT--
ZZAFFT!
THAT'S IT! I DID IT!
NOW, ALL I GOTTA DO IS STAND UP TO ALL THE BLASTED HIGH-VOLTAGE TEARIN' THRU ME THAT I CAN--WHILE I R P A HUNK A STEEL CLEAN OUTTA HERE!!
I GOTTA GIT IT DONE BEFORE DOOM FIGGERS OUT WHAT I'M UP TO--!
THERE! NOW LET 'IM COME! I'M READY FOR 'IM!!
RAKK!
HEY, DOOM-- C'MERE!! I GOT SOMETHIN' FOR YA TO CHEW ON--!
WHAT? YOU STILL LIVE!??
WELL, I'LL PUT AN END TO-- -UHHH!-
GERONIMO!
ZLOT!
7


GOWAN--HOP BACK ON THAT NUTTY, FLYIN' SEE-SAW--!
SEE HOW MUCH GOOD IT'S GONNA DO YA!
MEBBE YA DID MANAGE TO STEAL THE SILVER SURFER'S POWER--
BUT YA STILL GOT A LOT TO LEARN ABOUT HOW TO USE IT!
CERTIN I AIM TO SEE THAT YA NEVER GIT THE CHANCE!
KRAKK!
FIRST THING I'M GONNA DO IS GITCHA OFF THIS CRUMMY BOARD--!
'N THIS IS AS GOOD A WAY AS ANY!
NOW TALK, YA ROTTEN, RATTLIN' RUSTPOT--
WHAT'D YA DO TO THE SURFER? WHERE IS HE? TALK, OR I'LL CLOBBER IT OUTTA YA!
FOR THIS INDIGNITY, YOU'LL PAY A THOUSANDFOLD!
NOW THAT YOUR WITLESS PHYSICAL ONSLAUGHT HAS SPENT ITSELF, YOU WILL ONCE AGAIN FEEL THE FULL BRUNT OF MY MATCHLESS COSMIC POWERS--!
ALL I NEED DO IS FOCUS THE VIBRATION RAYS WITHIN MY SHIELDED EYE-PIECES--LIKE THIS!
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INSTANTANEOUSLY, THE VIBRATION RATE OF YOUR BODY IS SLOWED DOWN TO A *STANDSTILL!*
YOUR HIDEOUS, INHUMAN *LIMBS* WILL GROW HEAVIER--HEAVIER--UNTIL YOU CAN BARELY SUPPORT YOUR OWN WEIGHT--!
--UNTIL FINALLY, YOU ARE TRANSFORMED INTO A VIRTUAL *LIVING STATUE*--UNABLE TO MOVE--UNABLE TO SPEAK--THE MOST TOTALLY *HELPLESS* OF ALL MORTALS!
AND SO SHALL YOU *REMAIN*--UNTIL I *RETURN* FOR YOU--AT MY PLEASURE--*AFTER* I HAVE DISPOSED OF THE THREE *WEAKER* MEMBERS OF YOUR ACCURSED GROUP!
AND SO IT IS THAT, A SHORT TIME LATER--
SAY! THAT STATUE WASN'T THERE *EARLIER*, WAS IT?
DON'T BE *SILLY*, TOM! *NOBODY* CAN CONSTRUCT SOMETHING LIKE *THAT* IN JUST A FEW HOURS!
BUT, THE TIME HAS COME, TO *LEAVE* THE MOTIONLESS *THING*, AS WE TURN OUR ATTENTION ONCE AGAIN TO THE ROOF OF THE *BAXTER BUILDING*, WHERE ANOTHER
AWAITS US--
9

WE MADE IT, WYATT! LOCKJAW BROUGHT US BACK TO NEW YORK!
YOUR HOURS OF TRAINING HIM REALLY PAID OFF, BIG FELLA!
YES--AND NOT A MINUTE TOO SOON, JOHNNY.*
*JOHNNY STORM, WYATT WINGFOOT, AND THE OVER-SIZED CANINE KNOWN AS LOCKJAW WERE ABOUT TO BE STOMPED ON BY SOME TYPICAL CRAZY KIRBYESQUE CARNIVORES IN ANOTHER DIMENSION LAST ISH--AS IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW!--SMILEY!
BUT, HOW COME HE BROUGHT US BACK HERE--INSTEAD OF CLOSER TO OUR GOAL, BEHIND THE NEGATIVE BARRIER?
I DON'T LIKE IT, JOHNNY! LOCKJAW IS GROWLING--SOMETHING DISTURBS HIM! IT'S A BAD SIGN!
RRRR
SOMETHING DISTURBS HIM?!!
AFTER ALL THE FALSE LEADS--ALL THE WILD GOOSE CHASES HE'S TAKEN US ON?!!
I'VE GOT A GOOD MIND TO PASTE THAT FOUR-FOOTED FREAK SMACK IN THE SNOUT WITH A FIRE-BALL!
EASY JOHNNY! LOSING YOUR TEMPER WILL ONLY UNDO ALL WE'VE SOUGHT TO ACCOMPLISH ALL THESE WEEKS.
LOCKJAW IS TRYING TO WARN US--THERE IS DANGER HERE--DANGER WHICH ONLY A HYPER-SENSITIVE BEAST SUCH AS HE CAN DETECT!
PERHAPS IF WE LOOK OVER THE EDGE OF THE ROOF--
JOHNNY! I'VE FOUND SOMETHING!
THE WALL BELOW--SOMETHING HAS TORN A GAPING HOLE RIGHT THRU IT!
THAT'S THE MAIN SECTION OF OUR OPERATIONS UNIT!
STAND BACK, FELLA! I'M HEADING DOWN THERE--ON THE DOUBLE!
FLAME ON!
WYATT! TAKE THE STAIRS! GET HERE AS SOON AS YOU CAN!
I CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT HAPPENED HERE--BUT, I KNOW ONE THING--
IT'S SERIOUS--DEADLY SERIOUS!
10

AND, AT THAT VERY MOMENT, AT A QUIET RETREAT IN SOUTHHAMPTON--
REED RICHARDS! HONESTLY! CAN'T YOU EVER STOP TINKERING?
I THOUGHT I'D JUST MODIFY THIS LITTLE CONDUCTIVE-INVERTER WHILE YOU WERE DRESSING, HONEY!
DRESSING? DON'T YOU REMEMBER? WE PLANNED TO STAY HOME TONIGHT AND HAVE A WEINIE ROAST IN THE BARD--REED!!
WHAT IS IT, DARLING? WHAT HAPPENED?!!
I DON'T KNOW, SUE! THE ENTIRE MECHANISM JUST SEEMED TO VANISH--IN A BLINDING FLASH!
IT'S THE WORK OF SOME OUTSIDE FORCE --SOME OUTSIDE POWER!! BUT--WHO?!
THEN, BEFORE ANOTHER BREATH CAN BE DRAWN-- ANOTHER WORD CAN BE UTTERED--
SOMETHING IS LIFTING ME INTO THE AIR--LEVITATING ME AS THOUGH I'M WEIGHTLESS!
AND THE ADHESIVE CABLES--THEY'RE RAISING ALSO--WRAPPING AROUND ME--TRAPPING ME!!
YOUR FORCE FIELD, SUE--USE IT--PROTECT YOURSELF!! WE'RE BEING ATTACKED!
BUT--HOW?! BY WHOM?!
I HARDLY THINK WE NEED ANOTHER INTRODUCTION, MRS. RICHARDS!
YOU!
AND NOW--SO THAT YOU WON'T FEEL NEGLECTED, TOO--THIS WHIRLING COSMIC CONE WILL RENDER YOU HELPLESS!
11

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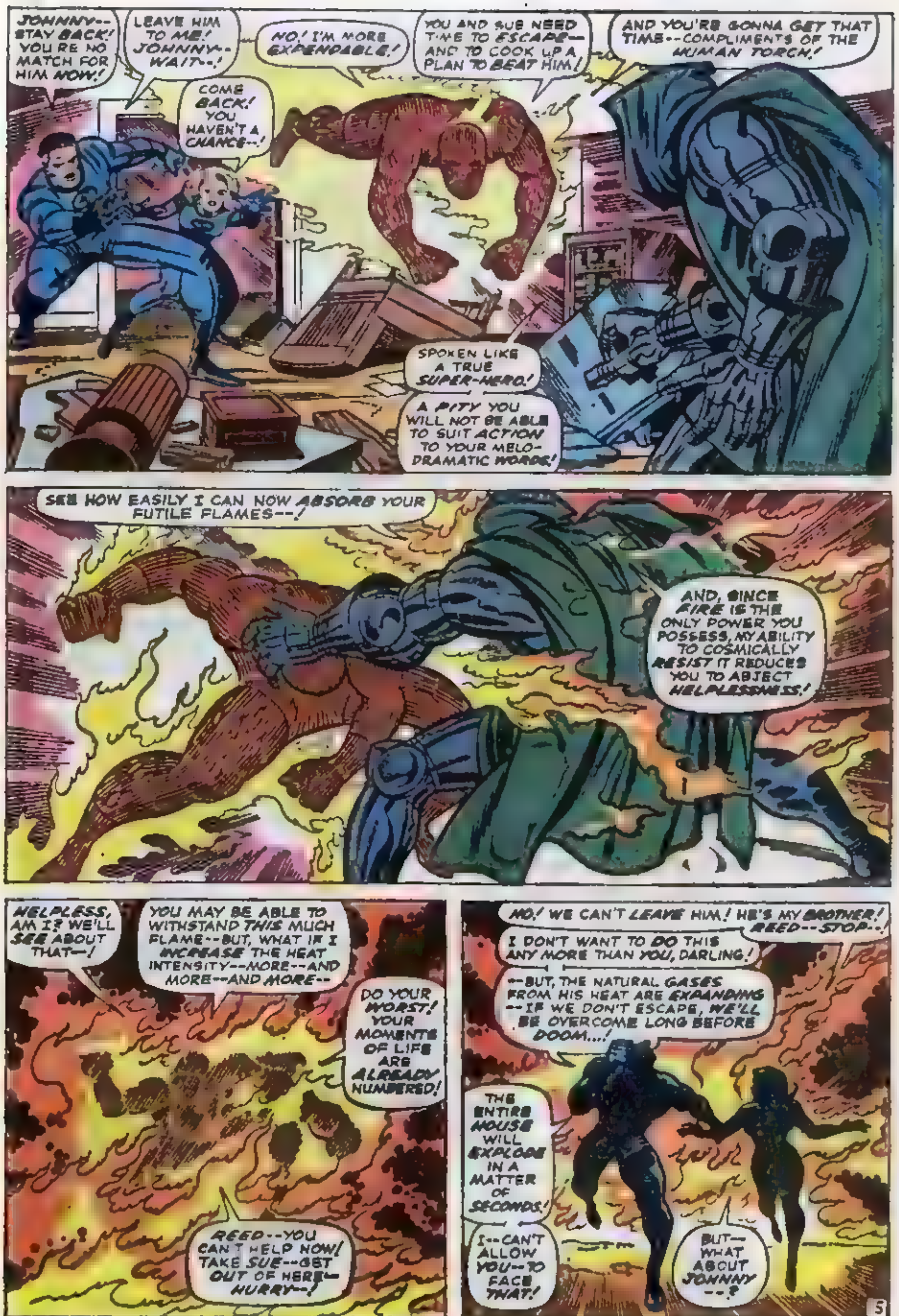
JOHNNY-- STAY BACK! YOU'RE NO MATCH FOR HIM NOW!
LEAVE HIM TO ME! JOHNNY-- WAIT--!
COME BACK! YOU HAVEN'T A CHANCE--!
NO! I'M MORE EXPENDABLE!
YOU AND SUE NEED TIME TO ESCAPE-- AND TO COOK UP A PLAN TO BEAT HIM!
AND YOU'RE GONNA GET THAT TIME--COMPLIMENTS OF THE HUMAN TORCH!
SPOKEN LIKE A TRUE SUPER-HERO!
A PITY YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SUIT ACTION TO YOUR MELO-DRAMATIC WORDS!
SEE HOW EASILY I CAN NOW ABSORB YOUR FUTILE FLAMES--!
AND, SINCE FIRE IS THE ONLY POWER YOU POSSESS, MY ABILITY TO COSMICALLY RESIST IT REDUCES YOU TO ABJECT HELPLESSNESS!
HELPLESS, AM I? WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT--!
YOU MAY BE ABLE TO WITHSTAND THIS MUCH FLAME--BUT, WHAT IF I INCREASE THE HEAT INTENSITY--MORE--AND MORE--AND MORE--
DO YOUR WORST! YOUR MOMENTS OF LIFE ARE ALREADY NUMBERED!
REED--YOU CAN'T HELP NOW! TAKE SUE--GET OUT OF HERE-- HURRY--!
NO! WE CAN'T LEAVE HIM! HE'S MY BROTHER! REED--STOP--!
I DON'T WANT TO DO THIS ANY MORE THAN YOU, DARLING!
--BUT, THE NATURAL GASES FROM HIS HEAT ARE EXPANDING --IF WE DON'T ESCAPE, WE'LL BE OVERCOME LONG BEFORE DOOM...!
THE ENTIRE HOUSE WILL EXPLODE IN A MATTER OF SECONDS!
I--CAN'T ALLOW YOU--TO FACE THAT!
BUT-- WHAT ABOUT JOHNNY --?
5

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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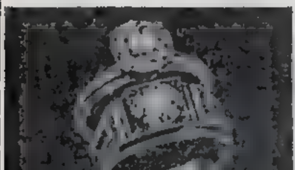

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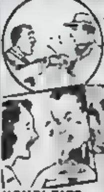

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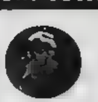

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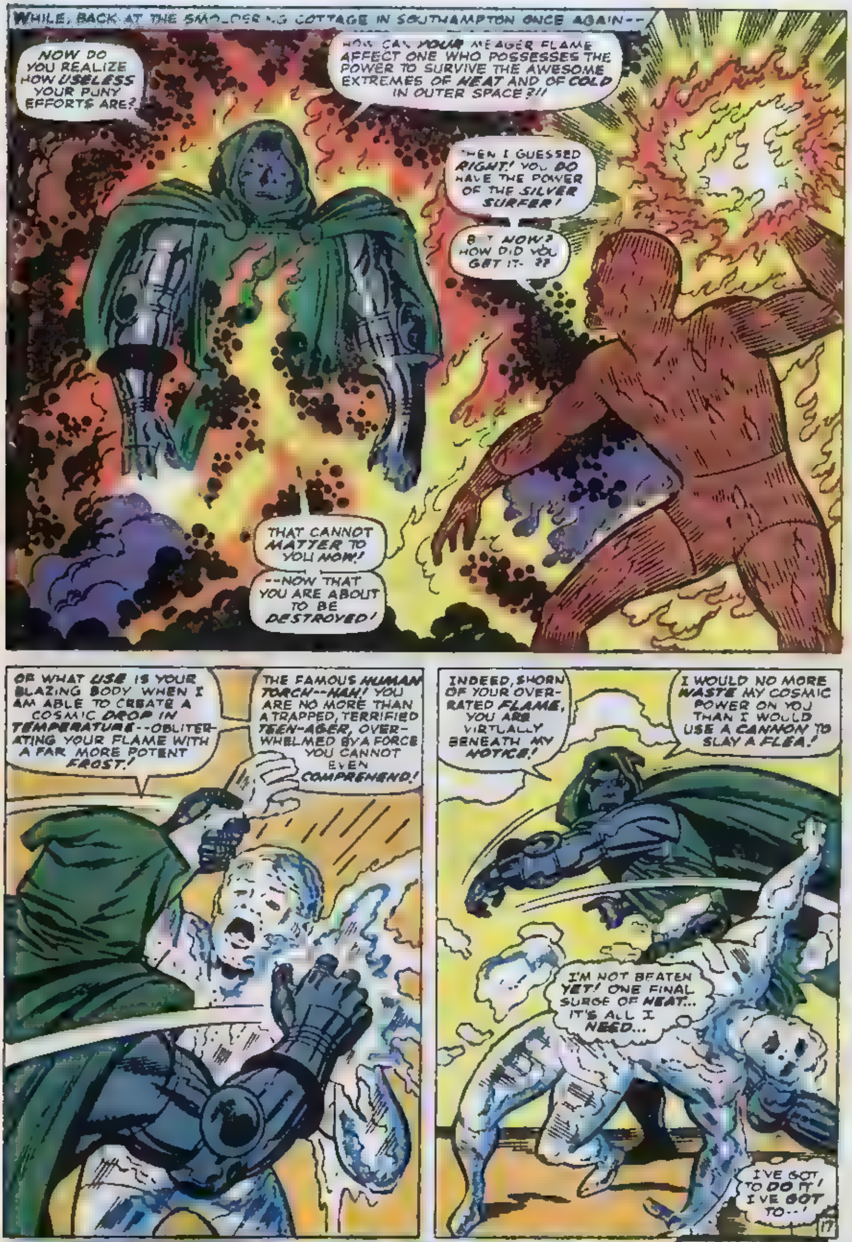
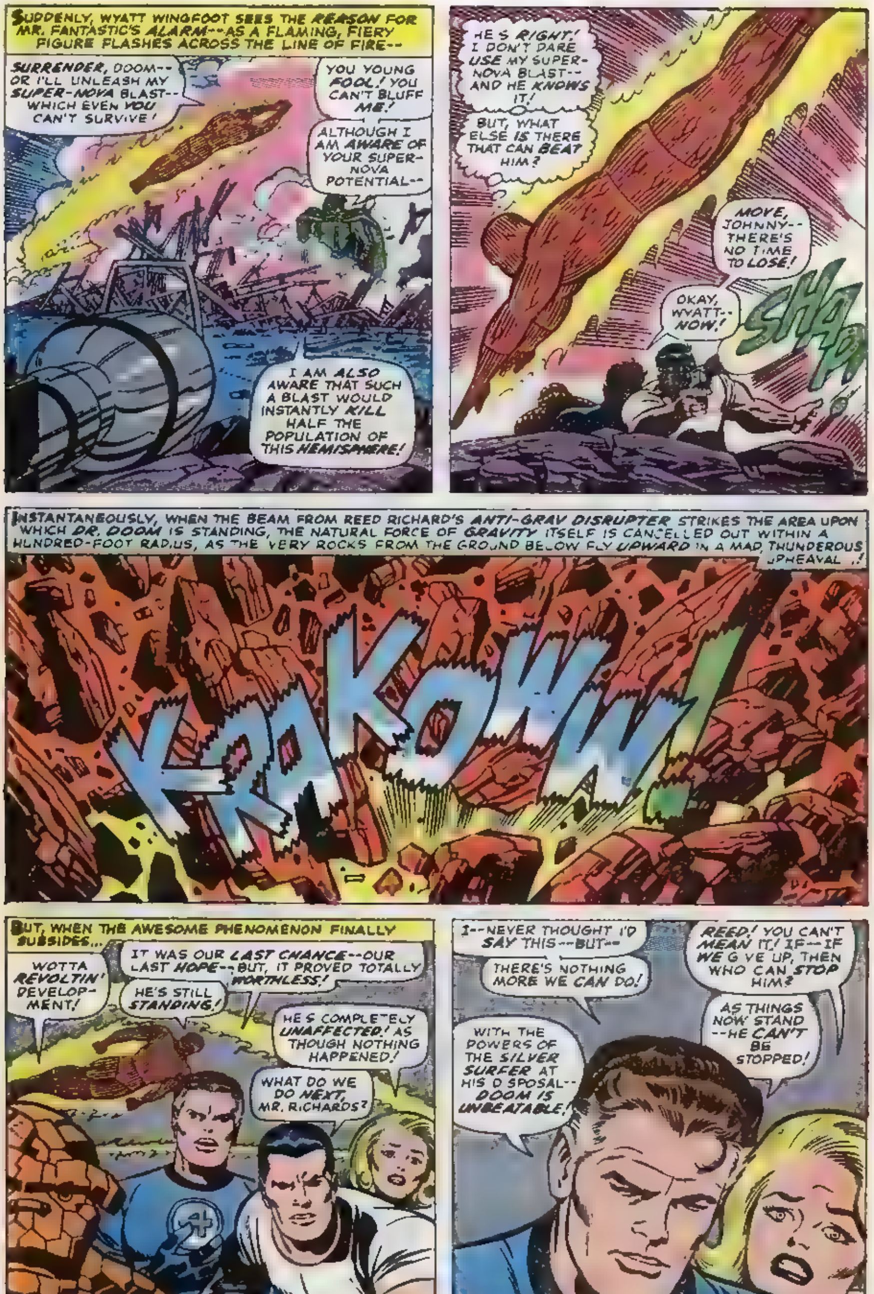
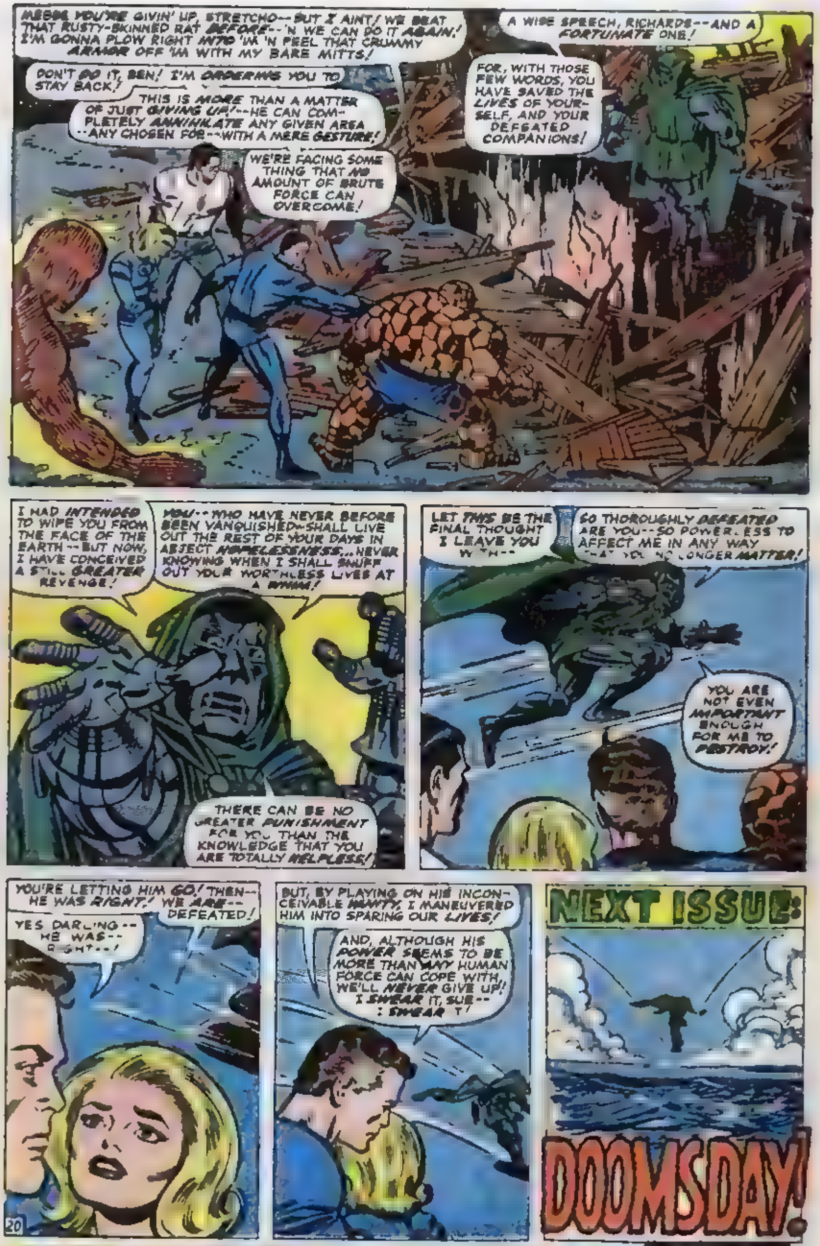


WATCH MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ON TV

AND THEN--
WHROOOM!
JOHNNY DID IT.
HE USED HIS LAST REMAINING VESTIGE OF FLAME TO CAUSE A DESTRUCTIVE FLARE-UP!
HE FREED HIMSELF!
BUT, WHAT DOES IT MATTER? HOW LONG CAN IT LAST? WE'RE LIKE POWERLESS CHILDREN TO DOCTOR DOOM!
FLY AWAY, JOHNNY! TAKE COVER TILL YOUR FLAME RETURNS TO FULL STRENGTH!
WE'LL FIND SOME WAY TO HOLD HIM OFF TILL YOU RETURN!
OKAY LEADER MAN! BUT TAKE GOOD CARE OF MY SIS TILL THEN, HEAR?
YOU CAN BANK ON IT, BOY!
REED! OVER HERE--LOOK!
WE HADDA HUNCH YOU'D BE HERE!
NOW JUST AIM YOUR BLUE EYED BUDDY IN THE DIRECTION OF DOC DOOM--
--'CAUSE IT'S
CLOBBERIN' TIME!
BEN! THANK HEAVEN YOU'RE HERE!
WYATT! YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE COME! IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!
I HAD TO, MR. RICHARDS! I BROUGHT SOMETHING THAT MAY HELP YOU!
AGAINST THE POWER OF DOOM? WHAT IS IT, SON?
NUTS TO ALL THAT SCIENTIFIC JUNK! ONE HAYMAKER'LL FINISH 'IM!
IT'S YOUR NEW EXPERIMENTAL ANTI-GRAV DISRUPTER!
SAY! WHERE'S OL' MATCH-HEAD?
HE'S REVITALIZING HIS FLAME!
HE'LL BE BACK ANY MINUTE--!
STAY BACK, ALL OF YOU! WAIT FOR JOHNNY!
LOOK! IT'S DOOM! HE'S HEADING THIS WAY! I'LL STOP HIM!
HOLD IT, WYATT! IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!
I'M NOT AFRAID, SIR! YOU'VE ALL RISKED YOUR LIVES FOR ME
NO! THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT, SON--!
DON'T SQUEEZE THAT TRIGGER!


SUDDENLY, WYATT WINGFOOT SEES THE REASON FOR MR. FANTASTIC'S ALARM--AS A FLAMING, FIERY FIGURE FLASHES ACROSS THE LINE OF FIRE--
SURRENDER, DOOM--OR I'LL UNLEASH MY SUPER-NOVA BLAST--WHICH EVEN YOU CAN'T SURVIVE!
YOU YOUNG FOOL! YOU CAN'T BLUFF ME!
ALTHOUGH I AM AWARE OF YOUR SUPER-NOVA POTENTIAL--
I AM ALSO AWARE THAT SUCH A BLAST WOULD INSTANTLY KILL HALF THE POPULATION OF THIS HEMISPHERE!
HE'S RIGHT! I DON'T DARE USE MY SUPER-NOVA BLAST--AND HE KNOWS IT!
BUT, WHAT ELSE IS THERE THAT CAN BEAT HIM?
MOVE, JOHNNY--THERE'S NO TIME TO LOSE!
OKAY, WYATT--NOW!
SHHAK
INSTANTANEOUSLY, WHEN THE BEAM FROM REED RICHARD'S ANTI-GRAV DISRUPTER STRIKES THE AREA UPON WHICH DR. DOOM IS STANDING, THE NATURAL FORCE OF GRAVITY ITSELF IS CANCELLED OUT WITHIN A HUNDRED-FOOT RADIUS, AS THE VERY ROCKS FROM THE GROUND BELOW FLY UPWARD IN A MAD, THUNDEROUS UPHEAVAL..!
KRAKOWW!
BUT, WHEN THE AWESOME PHENOMENON FINALLY SUBSIDES...
WOTTA REVOLTIN' DEVELOPMENT!
IT WAS OUR LAST CHANCE--OUR LAST HOPE--BUT, IT PROVED TOTALLY WORTHLESS!
HE'S STILL STANDING!
HE'S COMPLETELY UNAFFECTED! AS THOUGH NOTHING HAPPENED!
WHAT DO WE DO NEXT, MR. RICHARDS?
I--NEVER THOUGHT I'D SAY THIS--BUT--
THERE'S NOTHING MORE WE CAN DO!
WITH THE POWERS OF THE SILVER SURFER AT HIS DISPOSAL--DOOM IS UNBEATABLE!
REED! YOU CAN'T MEAN IT! IF--IF WE GIVE UP, THEN WHO CAN STOP HIM?
AS THINGS NOW STAND--HE CAN'T BE STOPPED!
19



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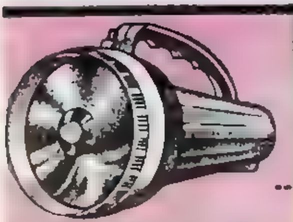

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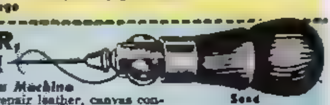

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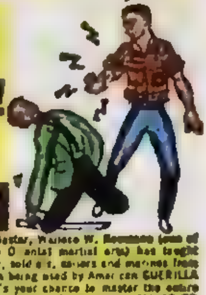

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ITEM! It's a funny [illegible] these Bullpen pages — here's why — Smilin' Stan is typing these imperishable words on July 14th — but by the time they're sent to the printer and finally reach YOU, it'll be sometime in October! In other words, there's always an interval of about three months from the time we write something till the time you read it! Even though you've probably seen our Marvel Super-Heroes TV show by now — at the time we're writing this, it won't be on the air for another two months! It's kind'a spooky, isn't it? Anyway, that's the reason WE can't comment about our show yet, even though YOU can! It'll be a couple of months before WE get to see it! See how much luckier YOU are! Who SAYS this isn't the Marvel Age of Compounded Confusion?

ITEM: We just received a letter from a ravin' reader who asks a question that many of you have tossed at us over the past few years — and so, we figure we might as well answer it here and now! First, the liltin' letter:

> Dear Bullpen Gang:
>
> I am curious to know how the letters for your letters columns are selected. Does Stan run all the letters thru one of Reed Richard's all-purpose computers — or does Irving Forbush just go Eeny Meeny Miney Moe?
>
> Neil Neches
> 631 E. 96th Street
> Bklyn., N. Y. 11236

Now, for the benefit of a wildly waiting world — your ameliorable answer: Actually, Fabulous Flo, our gregarious gal-Friday, opens all the mail first, and scans it quickly — albeit lovingly! Then, all the letters of more than passing interest (which includes about 99% of 'em) are given to Smiley. Poor Stan the Man, who has turned into a case of human, walking eye-strain, gobbles 'em up and puts a check atop those he thinks would be interesting enough for our various letters pages. He then returns 'em to Flo who bravely types them up for the printer, after first passing them around to the rest of the Bullpen. You might be interested in knowing that we read anywhere from 200 to 500 a day, in order to select a half dozen or so for the letters pages. Now then, if there's anything ELSE you wanna know about the process, don't write us a letter! Have pity, pussycats!

ITEM: Here's some more late info about the merry Marvel goings-on at various campuses around this cavortin' country of ours: Just recently, the STANFORD U. MMMS'ers, led by Jumpin' Jack Marchese, stumped your friendly neighborhood Spider-Man into the office of Campus King, while collecting hundreds of dollars for charity! . . . Readers of the TRINITY COLLEGE magazine, Ivy, are undoubtedly being awed by rapturous reprints of Marvel artifacts in the Sept. ish! . . . RENSSELEAR POLYTECH was the scene of a mirthful Marvel Beaux Arts Ball last April! The festivities featured a home-made 9-foot [illegible] of mighty Thor, curls and all, plus 30x40-inch posters of actual Marvel panels! . . . Tom Salazar and Corky Reed of COLORADO STATE gave their prof a Spidey T-shirt which he dramatically donned for class one day! So here's to Doc Fry — long may he propagate the faith! . . . A tribute to Marvel was broadcast by Ken Friedman at SHIMER COLLEGE recently — while WESU-FM, at WESLEYAN U., is actually planning a Marvel dramatization series for the coming semester, for which we proudly thank station-manager Mark Estren. . . . Oh, by the way, the Rensselear Polytech Beaux Arts Ball featured Mike Alderstein dressed as Spidey; Tony Pangaro as the Black Panther; John Matthews, Barb Weiscer, Debbie Priest, and Mike Hicks as the F.F.; and our cavortin' correspondent Pete Crissey as an Agent of Shield. (His wife Sharon, was his captive, natch!) . . . In between times, we hope the Marvel Madmen mentioned above managed to latch onto a little erudition as well!

ITEM: Let's meet a few of our newest Bullpen buddies: You'll notice the name JIM STERANKO listed as illustrator of the current Agent of Shield series in STRANGE TALES. Jim is a titanically talented newcomer, with a really exciting background. Believe it or not, he was formerly one of our most successful stage magicians — being billed as the greatest liberationist (escape artist) since Houdini! And then there's Mischievous MORRIE KURAMOTO, our latest addition to Jolly Solly's hard-working production staff. Besides being a crackerjack letterer, Morr[illegible] [illegible] artists. And how about Marvel's newest editorial help-mate — RON WHYTE? Ron is merely the recipient of a fellowship to the Yale D[illegible] School — and has the greatest sensahumor since J. Jonah Jameson! So, welcome aboard, group — and thanks for adding a little more glamor to Marveldom!

ITEM: It looks as though EVERYONE is latching on to Marvel these days! In the June '66 ish of THE NEW GUARD, published by The Young Americans for Freedom, there was an adroit appraisal of the Marvel Mystique which really set us back on our heels! (Aside to dynamic Dave Nolan — your no-prize is on the way!)

ITEM: Whoops! We almost forgot to list the newest disc jockeys on our ever-growing roster! Let's hear it, gang, for — Rick Stevens, WONE, Dayton, Ohio — Don Kennedy, KISN, Portland, Ore. — King Zbornik, WRIT, Milwaukee, Wisc. — Rege Cord[illegible] KNX, Los Angeles, Calif — and Rick Snyder, WTRY, Troy, N. Y.! — Heroes all! Incidentally, how about us giving a stainless steel no-prize to the deejay who's the fastest talker? Many fans have told us that Merry Marcher Gary Stevens, WMCA, New York, should win the prize hands down — but we'd like to hear what the rest of Marveldom thinks. So, let us know who YOUR nominee is for the title "The Fastest Gums in Marvel-land"! We'll announce the winner sooner or later somewhere or other, in our usual methodical manner!

See you again next ish — same time — same bulletin page! Till then, remember — be good to each other! After all, isn't there a little bit of the super-hero in all of us?

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

A Line-Up Of Some Of The Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

SPIDER-MAN #44: He's really back! None other than the uncanny Lizard — one of Spidey's most exciting foes — far more menacing than ever!

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X-MEN #27: The return of the marvelous Mimic! Plus, more super-guest-stars and super-problems than you can shake a gamma ray at!

DAREDEVIL #23: Another thrilling change of scene for DD, as he battles the Gladiator to a finish in the most off-beat yarn of the season!

THOR #135: Sensational! You'll gape at the origin of the High Evolutionary! And, you'll flip at the way Goldilocks battles the future Man-Beast!

STRANGE TALES #152: Shield finally shows its block-busting power — while Dr. Strange enters a dimension so mysterious that we can't even describe it here!

SUSPENSE #85: Iron Man faces the Mandarin once more — but things are different this time! As for Captain America — he wages one of his greatest fights — against Batroc!

ASTONISH #87: You've never seen anything like the Sub-Mariner's showdown with Krang — nor the Hulk's epic struggle against the indestructible Hulk-Killer!

SGT. FURY #37: The hectic Howlers are up to their battle-helmets in sand, as they take on Nazis and desert tribesmen alike on the North African front! Wah-hoo!

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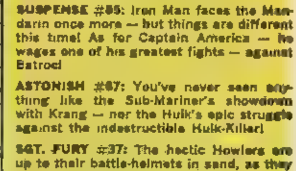

Let's meet 26 more M.M.M.S. members!

Kirk Matus, Fresno, Cal.
Richard Martineau, Princeton, N. J.
Douglas Bell, North Ross, N. Y.
Allen Almasy, Sewell, N. J.
Cindy Jenks, Dallas, Tex.
Steve Bennyhoff, Missoula, Mont.
Leslie Krausik, R[illegible]tzville, Wash.
Gary Moore, Carrolton, Miss.
Lewis Kwifiat, Beechhurst, N. Y.
Mark Keckeisen, Long Beach, Cal.
David McGinn, Niagara Falls, N. Y.
Louis Levsin, Cleveland, Ohio
Richard Acherson, Niagara Falls, N. Y.
[illegible] Marian, Niagara Falls, N. Y.
[illegible], [illegible]
[illegible] Burbank, Chicago, Ill.
[illegible], New York, N. Y.
[illegible], [illegible], Tex.
[illegible], [illegible]
[illegible], [illegible]
[illegible], North [illegible], N.J.
[illegible], [illegible], Tenn.
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Salt Lake City, KCPX—Channel 4
Rochester, WHEC—Channel 10
San Juan P R WAPA Channel 4
Saginaw Bay City WNEM—Channel 5
Portland Me WGAN—Channel 13
Tampa WTVT Channel 13
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Dear Stan and Jack,

Can mortal words describe epic grandeur such as found between the covers of F.F. #55? Nay, I say, unless they are from the gifted pen of the immortal Stan Lee. However, I will try to express the illustrious splendor of this milestone in comics history. As I review this masterful triumph, words of praise rise to my lips, but I must discard them as inadequate to my feelings. No matter what I say, it will not express the depth of what my soul feels. In the first place, this story dealt with the Thing, who is tops in the F.F. His personality was portrayed realistically as only Stan Lee could have done. Chee, Stan sure is versatile! He's a philosopher, comedian, one of the last true romanticists in the world today, and, aside from that, he's the best writer I know of. His stories express concern over the human race and point out many of its follies. At the same time, he gives us action, adventure, and humor. I liked Jack's art in the THOR SPECIAL very much, probably because of those Asgardian scenes of splendor which only Kirby can bring to life. He must spend hours on each panel. Where does he ever find time to do all the work he does? Going back to the story, I have never seen such realistic emotion in a comic magazine. The Silver Surfer's description of the Thing—"You are like a child, attempting to battle the elements themselves!"—echoed in my mind throughout the story. I hope I've expressed my heartfelt thanks in my orations. Thanks, pals!

Gary Burkett, 1120 E. Pecan
Angleton, Tex. 77515

Thou art welcome, felicitous one! To say we enjoyed your letter would be more of an understatement than even we modest Marvelites could utter! So, let us merely thank you most sincerely, Gary, and hope that we shall never do anything to make you feel your pulse-pounding plaudits were unwarranted!

Dear Stan and Jack,

How could you do it?! Once in a while you've made mistakes, but this is unforgivable! Don't shake your heads like you don't know what I'm talking about. Take a look at the Thing on the cover of F.F. #54. This picture has Ben with brown eyes. Brown eyes!!? The whole world knows that bashful Benjamin has blue eyes! The next thing you know, you'll have the Hulk with shocking pink skin. But don't worry, we Marvelites managed to tolerate the error this time, but don't let Irving hear about it. He might boycott the Bullpen!

James Wolcott, 2306 Pine St.
Edgewood, Md.

A possibility far too frightening for us to even consider, Jimmy! Still, be of stout heart, tiger—we shall probe and search and investigate until we learn who is at fault for a blunder of such inconceivable magnitude! (And won't it be something if we learn that Honest Irv himself is the capricious culprit?)

Dear Stan and Jack,

I would like to say that you are doing great work. I read all of your publications monthly and I have been doing it for quite a while. I am a G.I. stationed overseas and most of the G.I.'s here enjoy your books. I am studying to be an Electronic Engineer, so I look at your books as science fiction. The thing that gets me is that people will read a science fiction book, but if someone mentioned a comic, they would scream bloody murder. I've read lots of science fiction that was no good at all. In your science fiction, you maintain a contact with reality—this is what puts you over so well. What made me write was my reading the *Stars and Stripes* the other day. They had a terrific write-up about your publications. Believe me, when you make a military newspaper, you must really be what's happening. I figure that with that article, and all those people in college reading Marvel, I must be what's happening, too! Hats off to you all!

SP5 Wallace M. Wright, RA 15600705,
21st Signal Co.
APO, New York, N. Y. 09019

Many thanks, soldier! We received the write-up from *Stars and Stripes* and were genuinely thrilled with it! Hundreds of other servicemen also wrote to congratulate us about it, and all we can say in return is—you great guys have made us, one and all, a mighty proud passel of Bullpeners! Our hats are off to you—in spades!

Dear Stan and Jack,

In F.F. #55 you mentioned that you would never run out of characters as long as you had a color chart. What I'd like to ask is if you have already been using one? I think so, and so will others after reading the colorful list I have prepared: Black Bolt, Green Goblin, Scarlet Witch, Black Widow, Red Skull, Grey Gargoyle, Red Ghost, Black Panther, Crimson Dynamo, Purple Man, Black Knight, and Golden Avenger. It's little things like this that give one the impression that none can compare to colorful Marvel Comics. So until Ben's Aunt Petunia gets her own mag, I'll be a loyal fan. However, considering the fact that you guys are nutty enough to do anything, I'll just say I'm a loyal fan—no matter what happens.

Jack Drucker, 1303 31st St.
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Shucks, Jackie—sorry you amended that last thought. We were already trying to decide whether to call it AUNT PETUNIA COMICS, or THE AMAZING AUNT PETUNIA. But, if you think it's a nutty idea, who are we to contradict you?—Still, we must admit—the concept did kind'a grab us!

Dear Stan and Jack,

I have just finished reading F.F. #55. Never before have I read such a story! The Silver Surfer is the most majestic and awe-inspiring figure you have created. His

power is so tremendous, none save Odin, Galactus, or the Watcher could match him. The story was expertly written and drawn. Stan, your imagination, thoughts, and ideas show you are a man of foresight. You show us that humans are all not blithering idiots. As you so skillfully wove into the story, men are full of hatred, greed, and lust for power. The Marvel Group is helping to overcome this. Yes, you are, by conveying to the young people of the world through your stories that justice is better than revenge, and kindness is better than hatred. Few men can express such ideas and wisdom the way you can. Jack is a great partner for he can make a sheet of paper and pencil show expressions and gestures as in a movie. It gives me great satisfaction to see you use heroes of all races in your stories. This in itself is an example of peaceful harmony that can be made true. I have a suggestion as to a home for the Silver Surfer. With the consent of the Watcher, he could take refuge on the moon. The battle that took place was very well done. Jack should be given the Nobel prize for it. The Surfer should be given his own book or share one with the Black Panther.

Vincent Wright, 203 Collins Ave.
Spartanburg, S. C.

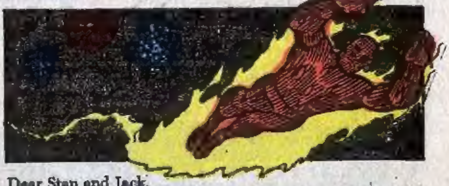
We'll drop all your suggestions down the well, Vince, and see if they splash! (After all, if we work on Madison Ave., we might as well sound that way!) As for sending Silver Surfer to the moon—that's like you or me taking a walk across the street! If we don't send him at least a few zillion light years away he won't even bother to pack!

Dear Stan and Jack,

I would like to say that I am pleased with the Hulk. You appear to be emphasizing the good-evil conflict transpiring within the Hulk's primitive brain. You are treating his schizo-personality with much realism. Keep it up! But the main point of my letter concerns a villain of the F.F. In my opinion, he is your greatest fiend. I am speaking, of course, about Dr. Doom. Despite the number of times he has appeared, I never tire of seeing him. Yet I have a complaint concerning darling Doc—you do not emphasize his personality enough. The hatred that has taken root in Victor Von Doom's mind is the key to his unique characterization. Bitter because of his father's death, possessed with a matchless brain, he was deeply affected by the explosion that destroyed his face. In some distorted way, he pinned the blame on Reed Richards and the F.F., and has ever since tried to destroy them to gain revenge for the accident which disfigured him. When you return Dr. Doom, please place more emphasis on this tragic theme, for it is the heart of Doc's personality. Finally, I ask two simple questions. Back in 1963 and 1964, you created Spider-Man, Avengers, X-Men, and Daredevil in rapid succession; but not since DD has the brilliant brain of Stan Lee created a new masterpiece. Why no new creations? Also, you place too much emphasis on strength, and not enough on intelligence. Thus, I ask you an unanswered question concerning intelligence. Who is the most brilliant—Reed Richards, Dr. Doom, or Professor Xavier?

Eric Lesko, Long Meadows Apts., Bldg. 4
Richland Lane, Camp Hill, Pa.

If we answer that ourselves, Eric, we won't get a chance to distribute any no-prizes! Therefore, let's wait and see which candidate for "Marvel's Most Brilliant Brain" the rest of our true believers select—okay? As for new creations—what do you call the Silver Surfer—the Inhumans—Galactus—etc., etc.? But, if you mean new magazine titles, we've a whole kaboodle of new ideas, which we're just apt to spring upon the unsuspecting reading public—just as soon as we get a breather—whenever *that* will be! So, stick around, son — in mixed-up Marvel-land you never know what'll happen next!



Dear Stan and Jack,

How can I begin to tell you how marvelous issue #55 was? If you think the one before it was good, this one was enough to take my breath away. The battle between the Thing and the Silver Surfer was a classic! Before I go on, let me say a few things. Nowadays, Marvel is so great what with TV shows, sweatshirts, games, books, etc., that I feel almost dwarfed. I feel like an ant in a herd of elephants! New giant Specials are coming out all the time, new TV shows are in the works, Marvel mags are on sale everywhere, and stores are selling Marvel doodads. At times, I almost feel like going back to the Marvel of yesteryear. Then, the only time you heard of Marvel was in the books. Regardless, I will struggle to get as many magazines and items as possible, while watching the TV shows till the set blows up. If someone says this isn't the Marvel Age of Comics, I will exclaim, "Right! This is the Marvel Age of Everything!"

Bennie Hammonds, 178 Oakcliff Ct. N.W.
Atlanta, Ga.

It does seem that way, doesn't it, Ben? But, there is one fact that must never be forgotten—our first interest, our main interest, our most vital and never-ending interest is the quality of our magazines! Even if we do manage to take over the entire, ever-lovin' world, it will only be for the purpose of producing mags that are better than ever! We kid thee not, frantic one!

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